

## HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE BOARD

AUGUST 25, 2003

The Hamilton County Solid Waste Board met on Monday, August 25, 2003 at 12:00 noon in the Commissioner's Courtroom in the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana. President Altman called the meeting to order and roll call was taken. A quorum was declared with all members present.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Dennis Redick motioned to approve the July 28, 2003 minutes. Steve Holt seconded. Motion carries. Dan Henke abstained.

### **2004 Budget Workshop:**

Christine Altman stated based upon the Board's direction from July 28th, she met with the Hamilton County Health Board and proposed that the Health Board propose a dollar amount to run the Household Hazardous Waste facility for 2004 and indicated it would be a turnkey contract. The Health Board would come up with an amount and the Solid Waste Board would pay the amount as agreed on a contractual basis. They would provide insurance, supplies, disposal costs, etc. The Solid Waste Board's only responsibility would be to cut four to five checks a year to the Health Board, depending on the frequency of payment. They considered that and have agreed to talk with us on that basis. Barry McNulty has revised the estimate of what it will cost to run the HHW facility, which is \$400,000 for 2004. This will include projected utilities, liability insurance, basically a stand alone budget. We would gain the Health Department running the two and one-half positions thru their budget, they will budget for all these expenditures. We would not have to have a separate budget for each item, they will hopefully gain flexibility on employees and Steve Wood would be able to take a vacation. In terms of the numbers, the Auditor's office believes Solid Waste will start the year with a cash balance of approximately \$109,000. We do not know what our maximum levy is, we have not heard anything from the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF). Prior to the appeal letters we were at approximately \$250,000 as a levy. We will not receive an allocation of COIT in 2004 because we have no prior year budget. We will receive Excise, FIT and CVET taxes. Even with a \$250,000 max levy she hopes we will pull in related taxes of approximately \$300,000, which would make this acceptable. This will not include any type of repayment to any other entity that performs household hazardous waste collections. It does not include any repayment to the County, right now we can not fiscally do either of those items. We could comply with a contract of \$400,000 and that is what she suggests we do. We could probably make a disbursement on or before January 31st of \$100,000. Once the tax draws come in, assuming we get approximately \$150,000 a half the next payment would be due on/or before July 15th and the final payment due on/before December 31st. Grant monies will also be coming in the amount of approximately \$60,000 and they are applying for another grant. Altman proposed we adopt a budget of contractual amount of \$400,000, add an additional \$50,000 for other Solid Waste expenses or Auditor's expenses if needed.

[12:05:50] Dillinger stated he thought the major issue was paying the Council back? Altman stated no, that was excluded from the contract and specifically reported to Council that it was

excluded at that time. What is in the contract is payment to Carmel, but not to Council. Dillinger stated you have excluded Carmel out of this as well? Altman stated if there was money, we would do it. Without the COIT distribution it is impossible, without loans. Her major concern is to keep the facility running. To the extent we can re-pay Carmel we catch up on our tax levy and COIT. David George asked how would that work with Carmel? [12:07:07] Altman stated she was not aware of before was the more history we have, we will be able to demonstrate how much their operation reduces the county load. We do see that when the Carmel facility is closed, we have a big up surge that day at the county facility. The per-capita calculation is not equitable, given the fact that Carmel residents use our facility when they are closed. We will have to go on a year to year basis and see what is equitable. The DLGF has not included the re-payment in our levy. Altman stated we can present \$100,000 in the budget to pay Carmel, and she is not opposed to that. We, as a Board, have to figure out priorities in the event that our levy does not meet it. [12:09:21] Altman asked Barry McNulty to give the numbers for Carmel? Barry stated we have not had an opportunity to analyze the numbers as to how many Carmel residents we are serving or how we are reducing Carmel's costs. We cooperate with them on propane tanks. If you did a per capita basis for how many people in Carmel it was approximately \$100,000. We also carry some of their load, he is looking for direction from the Board on how they want to establish the amount. Holt asked if there are examples around the State where a municipality is doing household hazardous waste and getting reimbursement from the District? Barry stated no, not that he is aware of. Holt stated the State continues to give grants to Carmel, so they must smile upon the fact that there is additional household hazardous waste beyond the district waste or they would not continue to give grants. Barry stated he is not aware of other municipalities outside of their district. Holt stated whatever rate we pick we will be subject to criticism, either Carmel will think it is too low or everybody else in the county will think it is too high. It would be nice to have somebody else tell us what an equitable way to do this might be. Should we make a written inquiry to IDEM to see if they have a suggestion? Altman stated we have data within our files as to what our numbers are. We should extrapolate based upon when the Carmel facility is closed how our volume picks up. It is like any other where we allow a municipality to enhance services within the area, like the paramedics, we have a history in this county to be equitable when a jurisdiction wants to pick up and offer better service than we do at the county level. Holt stated the paramedics is different, that would be the exclusive service. Altman stated we have mutual aid on paramedics. Dillinger stated a better example might be the dispatch. Barry suggested meeting with John Duffy and see what their budget is. We have seen Carmel's operation in process, they do a nice job, but it is much, much smaller than what we are doing. To give \$100,000 to that program is too much, in his opinion. We might do in one day what they might do in one week. Altman stated maybe we should look at how much tonnage they take in and at our county rate it would cost us AX@dollars to process it and that is the basis of the offset of expense. Barry state that should not be too difficult to get those numbers, we are using the same vendor for disposal. Dan Henke stated to the extent we wish to compensate Carmel, it should be on that basis. Carmel has made a political decision for the convenience of the people living within Carmel to provide this service and facility, which we are duplicating. The only thing that they are doing for us, that we are not doing for ourselves, is taking away the tonnage that we would otherwise be handling and processing. To the extent that they wish to provide a service, overhead, salaries and incidental costs of operating a business, they are not taking or doing anything for us that we don't already have and consider in our budget. They are saving us processing costs for handling the materials they take off our hands and that should be the basis

on which we compensate them. Barry stated we do see Carmel residents all the time, not just the days that they are closed. We do not turn any Hamilton County resident away. Holt concurred, tonnage makes sense for disposal costs. Altman suggested adding to the budget \$75,000 and the reimbursement program to Carmel or any other entity that wants to do it, based upon the county's equivalent costs on tonnage taken in, subject to funding out of the property tax levy. [12:17:01] Holt stated you are saying something different than what Dan proposed and he concurred with. We are talking about the disposal costs only, what we pay to the contractor to haul it away. Altman stated right, we would also have processing. If you want to do it on straight tonnage, that is fine too. They take processing away from us too. Mike Howard stated we would use an estimate this year and then next year the budget would be based on comparing our first six months of 2004 to their first six months of 2004. Altman stated we would estimate to put in to the budget, it does not necessarily mean it will be paid, if we don't have a property tax levy to support it and that is the key. Henke suggested using their last year's figures. Barry stated we have not been using the same vendor for a full year. Holt stated it does not matter, use your vendor costs as long as you know what the tonnage is. Henke stated or pro-rate if necessary. Dillinger stated that seems fair to him. Altman asked if we should include \$20,000 or \$25,000 for incidental costs, for any Auditor's expense, insurance that the Board carries, etc. Holt stated sure. Altman stated the other aspect of the contract with the Board of Health, we would enter into a lease with the Board of Health to use that facility, which helps them to use the building for their Vector Control, etc. Altman confirmed \$425,000 on base costs and insert the number that the Board of Health calculates for Carmel as of last year. Dan confirmed, based on their tonnage? Altman stated correct. [12:20:22] Dillinger motioned to approve. David George seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Altman stated the budget will be presented on September 8th at 12:00 noon in public hearing. A quorum is needed.

[12:20:39] Jim Belden asked when will the levy be determined? Robin Mills stated we don't know. Belden asked when we get the number and we are shortchanged, obviously we come to the county for a loan, simply because COIT is not going to be distributed in 2004. Altman stated if we have the agreement with Carmel based upon a property tax levy, we will be able to meet the \$425,000 or \$400,000 within our budget through existing cash balance, the levy that was tentatively approved by the State of \$250,000, we will also draw Excise, CVET and FIT hopefully up to \$30,000 - \$50,000. Belden asked if the COIT will be matching? Altman stated we are at about 78%, which will go lower with Carmel's annexation and what Fishers does. Belden asked if this Board anticipates going to Council for money? Altman stated it would only be a temporary inner fund loan until the December draw comes through. That may need to come from the Board of Health because the contract will be drawn that we time our distributions with cash balance and tax draws. Belden stated during the budget hearings this was briefly discussed and the past re-payment was not an issue, loan possibilities seemed to have relatively positive attitude.

#### **Household Hazardous Waste Center Update: [12:23:24]**

Barry stated August saw an unusual incident from the paint truck that caught on fire, immediately following we had a huge number of people, 200+, bringing in paint solvents in one week. At this point in August, we have shipped what we did last year. We are at approximately 114 tons and we still have the rest of the year.

Altman stated when contracting with the Board of Health we hope that Steve Wood will grow

into Barry's position. Steve wrote the upcoming grant and hopefully the administrative load will be reduced with the appropriate staffing at the facility. Barry stated that was one of the selling points to the Health Board, the administrative time will be reduced, we will still support the clerical part. Steve will be on board for grant writing, grant reporting, budgeting and managing, which he is capable of with a transition period.

Holt motioned to adjourn. Dillinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously. [12:25:31]

**NEXT MEETING :**

Monday, September 8th at 12:00 noon - Public Hearing

Thursday, September 18th at 12:00 noon - Final Adoption

**Present**

Christine Altman

Steven C. Dillinger

Steven A. Holt

Jim Belden

Dennis Redick

Dan Henke

David George

Robin Mills

Michael Howard

Barry McNulty

Stephen Wood

Kent Ward

Kim Rauch